



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MANUFACTURING METH

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man pleaded guilty today to a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine by using a tank of anhydrous ammonia hidden at a local park.

Timothy W. Hines, also known as Peg Leg, 42, of Independence, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to a conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between May 9, 2001 and August 6, 2001.

By pleading guilty today, Graves said, **Hines** admitted that he purchased boxes of pseudoephedrine at the Walgreen's store on 23rd Street in Independence with the intention that the pseudoephedrine would be used to manufacture methamphetamine. **Hines** also admitted that he utilized an anhydrous ammonia tank which he placed at Landau Park to manufacture methamphetamine.

As a result of today's plea agreement, **Hines** could be subject to a sentence ranging from at least 10 years in prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 million. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled sometime after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine Connelly. It was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Independence, Mo., Police Department, and the Metro Methamphetamine Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow